GRAPEVINE™

VISITACION·VALLEY

ISSUE #66 SERVING OUR COMMUNITY JANUARY 1992

Visitacion Valley Elementary School

Santa made a toy stop in Samoa on her way to Visitacion Valley Elementary School. Thanks to the generosity of P.G. & E., the Toys for Tots Program through the U.S. Navy (Alameda) and U.S. Marine Corps (Treasure Island), all the school children received toys for the holiday season. Thank you, VVES PTA for all the candy canes; and Nationwide Papers for the turkeys for the food baskets.

Wilson bracing for overcrowding

Moral is low in the high schools with both staff and students. Staff not knowing if they will have a job and students anticipating the increase in enrollment and a decrease in staff persons.

San Francisco schools will suffer a tremendous loss with the closure of Balboa High School. The students that are graduating from Middle schools such as Denman, Aptos, Horace Mann, Potrero Hill, Martin Luther King and more will be attending Woodrow Wilson High School along with students that will be attending Wilson as a result of the closure of Balboa.

Students that attend Wilson presently are not embracing the idea that the massive number of displaced students will be housed at Wilson. They are apprehensive about the problems that may occur as a result of the placement. Problems such as:

1. Possible reoccurrence of the 1968-69 riot, that took place when students from different schools were coerced into attending Wilson because of the closure of Polytechnical High School.

2. Possible outburst and escalation of gang violence because students from various at-risk communities involved or forced to become involved in "turf" wars will be put together in a school that will have inadequate staff to deal with the problems.

A diverse mix of students who traditional have problems adjusting to the transition made from Middle school to High school, with angry students that have been uprooted from there school because of closure, and the increase of students per teacher ratio, these negative factors combined with the "turf wars", equal mass chaos and possible loss of lives in this volatile situation.

A Head counselor at Woodrow Wilson was employing abusive techniques when disciplining the students. Very often humiliating the youth in the presence of his peers and or verbal abusing the student and if the student responded back they might face severe penalties up to and including being expelled from the school.

After an assessment of the problem and speaking to several youth and parents regarding the issue a letter was drafted and sent to the principal and Ramon Cortinez. I then started monitoring the school very closely by attending various classes and being on campus daily for 2 weeks. The principal responded to my course of action and stated he would deal with the problem and to let him know if there are reoccurrences of the problem. I suggested that the counselor be sent to sensitivity training focused on at-risk youth.

Joyce Bickel Receives Arthritis Foundation Award

Joyce Bickel a long-time San Francisco resident, has been presented with the Arthritis Foundation, Northern California Chapter's Annual Volunteer of the Year Award.

several years was honored for her devoted service to the organization. Formerly a Vice President of Koret of California, Mrs. Bickel has been involved in the planning of countless projects and events and has consistently made her expertise available to the Foundation.

Anyone interested in becoming an Arthritis Foundation volunteer should contact the Arthritis Foundation Northern California Chapter, 203 Willow Street, Suite 201, San Francisco, CA 94109 (415) 673-6882 or 1-800-464-6240.

SAFE recruiting in our Neighborhood

San Francisco SAFE, a non-profit community-based crime prevention organization, is looking for a community organizer for public housing. SAFE has been in existence for fifteen years, and has an on-going contract with the city and a contract with the San Francisco Housing Authority. SAFE's program components include organizing Neighborhood Watch groups, personal safety presentations in schools, residential security, business security, and community organizing in public housing and other low-income areas.

SAFE is interested in hiring someone who has had at least three years of community organizing experience or two years college in a related field. A background in crime prevention or criminal justice is not required. Willingness, skill and sensitivity in relating to high-risk populations are a priority. A valid California Drivers License is also required. Persons of color and San Francisco Housing Authority residents are strongly encouraged to apply. The position involves working some evenings and weekends, and is full time, with flexible scheduling.

Interested persons should submit their resumes by January 17, to Suzanne London, San Francisco SAFE, 850 Bryant Street, San Francisco, CA 94103.

Citizens Require Politician to Backup their Rhetoric With Dollars

San Francisco will now have to shed its reputation as an adult-oriented city! Instead we can proudly proclaim to be the first in the country with the compassion and vision to provide children special budget protections in our charter.

On November 5, Prop J won with almost 55% of the vote-in the city with the fewest children per population of any major city in the country! San Francisco got the message: **Children are ALL of our future.** We all have a common stake in seeing that they become productive, healthy, law-abiding adults. Over a ten year period, approximately $160 million will now be set aside for children's services! That's a pretty good return on the $100,000 investment made by the Friends of San Francisco's Children in the Prop J campaign.

Prop J gave the people of San Francisco an opportunity to acually do something for our kids. It was a welcome chance to get beyond hand-wringing and frustration with the horrible realities facing children. The success of Prop J has created a new day for the children's in San Francisco. Never before has there been such momentum to organize a true children's constituency. In the months to come, Coleman will be contacting the hundreds of people involved in the campaign in order to continue the struggle on behalf of children.

IMPORTANT NEWS FOR KIDS WHO WILL START KINDERGARTEN IN 1992

Aisha Kassahoun, Parent/Community Involvement Officer from the San Francisco Unified School District will speak at the Visitacion Valley Community Center's Parents' Council meeting on Tuesday, January 14, 1992 at 6:00 PM.

Ms. Kassahoun is particularly interested in speaking to parents who will have children entering kindergarten in the Fall of 1992. The subject matter is Pre-Registration and Optional Enrollment for Fall of '92.

This meeting is a pot-luck...please bring a dish to share.

The end of the 1st period for the School District's processing of applications is January 17, 1992, so if you wish to have a say in which school your child will attend, you must apply now!

Please do not wait until summer to sign your child up for kindergarten...you may be disappointed. In previous years, we have seen little kindergarteners having to be bussed all the way to the other side of town because their application was too late for the neighborhood schools.

WE GET LETTERS...

December 20, 1991

Friend:

In an effort to keep you informed about critical issues in the school district, I am enclosing a resolution that will address an issue that has troubled me since I came on the Board of Education two-and-a-half years ago. Many of our students are confronted with hate violence each day. However, the District has never kept track, and does not know nor understand the full extent of this problem.

During my visits to schools and various community meetings, students, parents, and others have described these prejudice-based acts occurring in the District. I am very troubled by how we handle these incidents. When students are identified as perpetrators, we often expel them, but do nothing to teach them how to deal with the diversity within the schools. We exclude them from classes for a period of time, hoping that such insensitivity and hatred will discontinue. However, education, and not hoping, is the key to learning to live with one another with respect and dignity.

I introduced this resolution at the Board of Education's October 8th meeting. It passed unanimously at the 10/22/91 meeting. Among those who spoke in support of the resolution were Seth Ubogy of Supervisor Harry Britt's office, Tse Ming Tam of Chinese for Affirmative Action, Joy Morimoto and Greg Marutani of the National and San FRancisco Chapter of the Japanese American Citizens League, respectively, and Fred Persily of the Intergroup Clearinghouse. I am grateful to all of them. If you have any thoughts on this matter that you would like to share, please contact me.

Leland Y. Yee, PH.D. NCSP
Commissioner, Board of Education

San FRancisco Unified School District
135 Van Ness Avenue
San Francisco, CA 94102
(415) 241-6427

RESOLUTION NO.: 110-8A1
SUBJECT: Establishing A Hate Violence Reporting System and Intervention Program

AUTHOR: Commissioner Leland Y. Yee, Ph.D.

WHEREAS: Violence against persons or groups because of their race, religion, ethnicity, national origin, disability, sex, or sexual orientation damages the fundamental beliefs that support and make effective our democratic, pluralistic society; and

WHEREAS: Reports issued by the Governor's Task Force on Civil Rights (1980), by the Attorney General's Commission on Racial, Ethnic, Religious, and Minority Violence (1986, 1990), by the United States Civil Rights Commission on Recent Activities Against Citizens and Residents of Asian-Descent, by the Attorney General's Asian Pacific Islander Advisory COmmittee (1988), and by Community United Against Violence (1991) indicate violence motivated by race, religion, ethnicity, national origin, disability, sex, and sexual orientation is rising within California; and

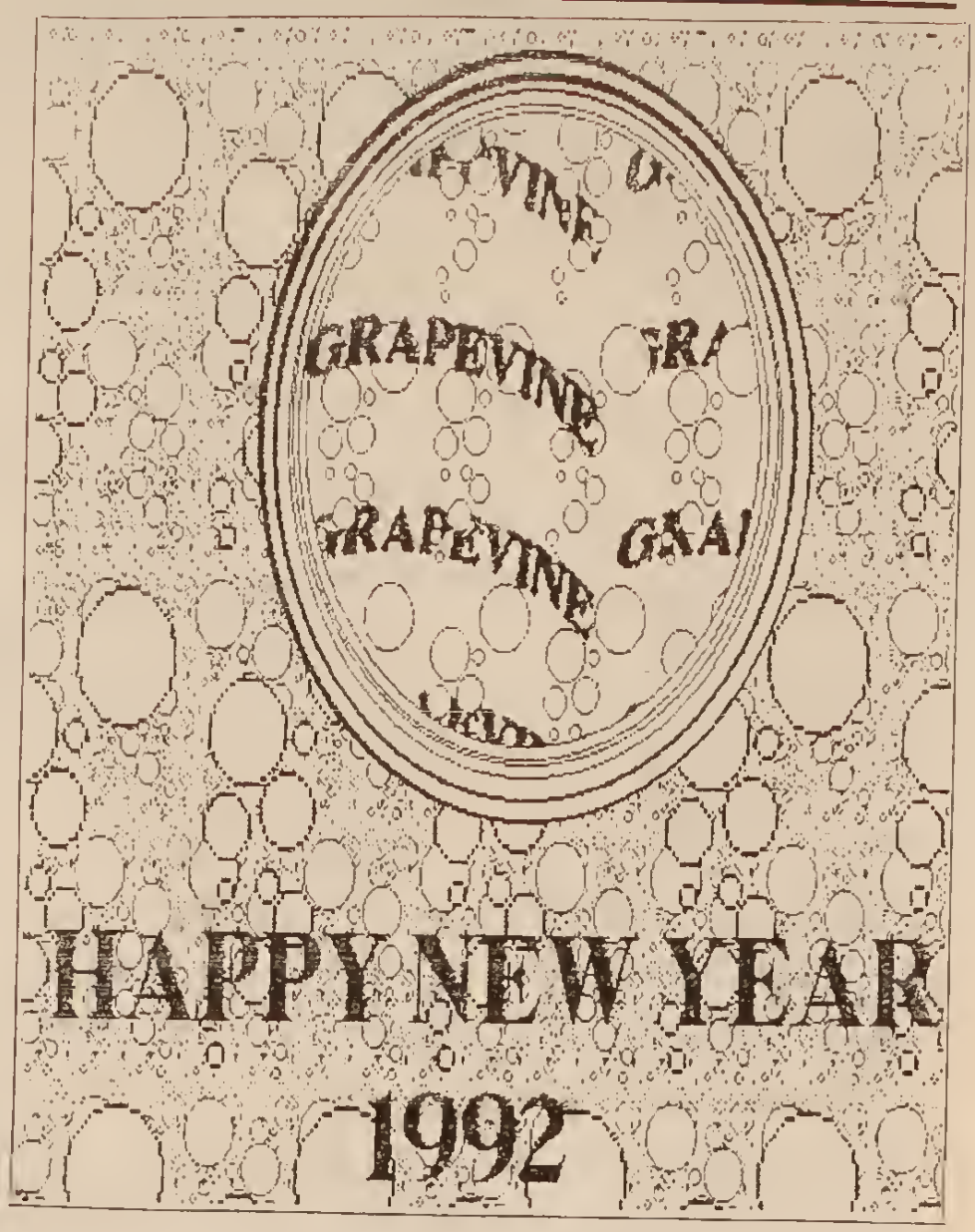
WHEREAS: In a survey of hate violence in the Los Angeles Unified School District, 37% of the schools responding to the survey reported incidents of prejudice-based incidents during the school year; and

WHEREAS: San Francisco students have reported that hate violence is on the rise in their schools; and

WHEREAS: A standardized reporting system for collecting data on prejudice-based incidents will allow the San Francisco Unified School District to more accurately determine the level of violence committed against minority groups in the San Francisco schools and will permit the District to develop effective responses to such problems;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: That the Board of Education directs the Superintendent to collect data relating to the types and frequencies of incidents motivated by prejudice based on race, religion, ethnicity, national origin, disability, sex, or sexual orientation, and shall transmit such data to the San Francisco Board of Education on a quarterly basis; and

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED: That the Superintendent includes in the school curricula across all grade levels discussions relating to the diversity of the school district with the intent of decreasing hate violence towards the various groups.



The Grapevine looks forward to 1992 with the hope that you all value our publication and will help support its continuing efforts to inform our neighborhood.

We need articles about our neighbors and neighborhood, photos of interest to our community, volunteers to help produce and deliver the Grapevine, and above all...money to print the paper. The printing, which is our only expense, costs approximately $600 per issue (that is $7200 per year).

Money means ads, donations and subscriptions! All the money that the Grapevine used to print the paper in this last year, came from ad sales. Subscription prices pay only for the stamps to mail the paper, and do not cover other costs. Our local businesses, while they seem to approve of the Grapevine, have not been buying enough advertising to keep us going for another year. We are hoping that local business will see the value in the Grapevine as a force for bringing the neighbors together, for promoting peace, safety, neighborhood beautification, and for influencing our neighbors to support neighborhood business rather than supporting businesses downtown which are often run by non-residents of our City.

We throw out the invitation and the challenge...help keep the Grapevine operating in Visitacion Valley.

DIRECTOR OF SPECIAL SCHOOL TO BE HONORED

STAR AWARD & BENEFIT WILL BE HELD ON FEBRUARY 8, 1992 AT EDDIE RICKENBACKER'S RESTAURANT LOCATED AT 133 - 2ND STREET HERE IN THE CITY. THIS EVENT WILL HONOR THE DIRECTOR OF THE STAR ACADEMY SCHOOL. ALL PROCEEDS RAISED WILL DIRECTLY BENEFIT THE SCHOOL.

THE SCHOOL IS LOCATED IN MARIN COUNTY, HOWEVER AT LEAST 60% OF THE STUDENT ENROLLED ARE FROM THE SAN FRANCISCO UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT. THE SCHOOL IS DESIGNED FOR CHILDREN WITH SEVERE TO MODERATE LEARNING DISABILITIES.

IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN ATTENDING THIS EVENT, OR WOULD LIKE MORE INFORMATION ON THE SCHOOL, PLEASE CONTACT BRENDA LOPEZ AT 239-5907 OR CALL THE SCHOOL DIRECTLY AT 456-8727

COME TO HEALTH CENTER #3

by Amena Panni, M.P.H.

To serve our Community better and to reduce our patient waiting time, we are coordinating our effort and reorganizing the Clinics and services at HC#3, 1525 Silver Avenue.

Beginning the week of February 10, 1992 there will be Drop-In Clinic for Blood Pressure Screening on Monday and Wednesday mornings. NO APPOINTMENT IS NECESSARY.

There are many other Clinics and services at the Health Center, some of them are open in the evening for the convenience of our patients. Except for the Drop-In Clinic, all other services are by APPOINTMENT ONLY.

For your appointment, please call 468-3664.

We are here to service our Community.

GRAPEVINE
VISITACION·VALLEY

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Opinions expressed in the Grapevine do not necessarily reflect those of Visitacion Valley Community Center.

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FIVE YEARS AGO IN THE GRAPEVINE

JANUARY 1987

* In a survey of 280 Valley residents, the following topics were ranked in order of importance: crime = 36.4%; vandalism = 22.8%; violence = 19.6%; housing = 18.9%; unemployment = 14.2%; apathy = 13.2%; hunger = 11.4%; lack of education = 8.9%; neighbor problems = 5.7%; drugs = 2.1%; and traffic and parking = 1%. Most frequently mentioned programs and services that respondents said they wanted to see at Visitacion Valley Community Center were adult education, youth activities, and family oriented activities.

* Bernice's Drapery Shop won top prize in the holiday window decorating contest on Leland Avenue.

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CENTERVIEW

Holiday Memories

The Holidays were busy in the Valley, and contained many memories for the VVCC family...some bitter and some sweet.

1991 was a troubled year for many. Family members have lost their lives, their loved ones, their homes and their jobs. Some have lost their health or their minds to drug and alcohol abuse. Some youth have lost their last opportunity for the education that could have given them a new life by quitting school. The problems seem to have grown and multiplied faster than they can be addressed, and at the same time, government has failed to assist the communities which so badly need help.

Still, neighbors helping neighbors has remained the one tried and true way for our community to survive these troubled times. We are happy to see so many new neighborhood activists, and applaud their hard work for the benefit of all our neighbors. We pledge to do all we can to assist and support these efforts, and to continue our own in the same vein.

The year end celebrations, we hope, are a harbinger of new strength to Visitacion Valley. Both groups and individuals did much to demonstrate their care for their community and their neighbors during the Holiday season this year.

The Oakland A's Elephant visited the children of Visitacion Valley Community Center's Childcare Program on December 3rd, bringing bags of Otis Spunkmeyer cookies to each child.

Prompted by the Grapevine Holiday Cheer decorating contest, neighbors decorated their premises for the Holidays with lights, greenery and vivid colors. The winners of the Holiday Cheer Contest are: Mr. & Mrs. Rod Java of Arleta Avenue, The Johnson family on Sawyer Street, and Mila's Video of #9 Leland Avenue. Photos of their winning decorations appear in this issue.

The Tenants Association at Sunnydale, with the help of the Housing Authority, put on a lovely Christmas Party for the children on Saturday, December 21st. There was lots of food for everyone, and each child was given a Christmas present donated by the Housing Authority and the Tenants. The Tenants Association would once again like to thank the S. F. Housing Authority for their generosity.

VVCC's Christmas was celebrated on December 20th, with a party for the children during the day, and an all-community party in the evening. The Center wishes to thank Anita Pavels and Syufy Corporation for the children's toys and food boxes for 49 families. Thanks also to Nordstroms Rack for their gifts to our children. Special thanks for the Christmas decoration project at the evening party goes to Deble Faulkner and her entire family, and thanks to Regi Oliver and the VVCC Midi Music Class for the stellar entertainment and Mr. John Choy for the wonderful traditional Chinese music performance.

Thomas Warren of Sunnydale donated a brand new bike for the raffle at the special Christmas Party at Herz Playground on Decenber 23rd. Carlos Magana also made a surprise visit to the Party and brought a bunch of toys for the younger set. Thanks so much from Renee and Charles and Herz to both Thomas and Carlos for these wonderful gifts! The kids made Christmas trees out of sugar cones and frosting decoration, and tree ornaments out of cinnamon and applesauce. The whole party was run by the teenagers who helped Renee Strong and Charles Hunter. Thanks to Angela Williams, Tennille Ellenberg, Tyrone Blankenship, Tiana Gitchuway, Mackia , Big Bob , and Joshua for doing everything...even the cleanup. See, teenagers can be terrific!

These kinds of events may seem trivial in the face of all the troubles we have all faced in the past year, but they go a long way toward lifting spirits. Keeping a positive outlook is very important, if we are to keep struggling to renew our community and help our neighbors and ourselves. Laughter and smiles are the stuff of life, and just such small "vacations" as these events can give us just enough hope and bring us together to continue the uphill climb we all face.

SAN FRANCISCO'S 40 MAYORS

John W. Geary.....May 1, 1850-May 5, 1851
Charles J. Brenham.....May 5, 1851 - Jan. 1, 1852
Stephen R. Harris.....Jan. 1, 1852 - Nov. 10, 1852
Charles J. Brenham.....Nov. 10, 1852 - Oct. 3, 1853
Cornelius K. Garrison..Oct. 3, 1853 - Oct. 2, 1854
Stephen P. Webb.....Oct. 2, 1854 - July 1, 1855
James Van Ness.....July 1, 1855 - July 8, 1856
George J. Whelan.....July 8, 1856 - Nov. 15, 1856
Ephriam W. Burr.....Nov. 15, 1856 - Oct. 3, 1859
Henry F. Teschemacher..Oct. 3, 1859 - July 1, 1863
Henry P. Coon.....July 1, 1863 - Dec. 2, 1867
Frank McCoppin.....Dec. 2, 1867 - Dec. 6, 1869
Thomas H. Selby.....Dec. 6, 1869 - Dec. 4, 1871
William Alvord.....Dec. 4, 1871 - Dec. 1, 1873
James Otis.....Dec. 1, 1873 - Nov. 4, 1875
George Hewston.....Nov. 4, 1875 - Dec. 6, 1875
Andrew J. Bryant.....Dec. 6, 1875 - Dec. 1, 1879
Isaac S. Kelloch.....Dec. 1, 1879 - Dec. 5, 1881
Maurice C. Blake.....Dec. 5, 1881 - Jan. 8, 1883
Washington Bartlett....Jan. 8, 1883 - Jan. 3, 1887
Edward B. Pond.....Jan. 3, 1887 - Jan. 5, 1891
George H. Sanderson....Jan. 5, 1891 - Jan. 3, 1893
Levi R. Ellert.....Jan. 3, 1893 - Jan. 7, 1895
Adolph H. J. Sutro.....Jan. 7, 1895 - Jan. 4, 1897
James D. Phelan.....Jan. 4, 1897 - Jan. 8, 1902
Eugene E. Schmitz.....Jan. 8, 1902 - July 9, 1907
Charles Boxton.....July 9, 1907 - July 16, 1907
Edward R. Taylor.....July 16, 1907 - Jan. 8, 1910
Patrick H. McCarthy....Jan. 8, 1910 - Jan. 8, 1912
James Rolph Jr.....Jan. 8, 1912 - Jan. 7, 1931
Angelo J. Rossi.....Jan. 7, 1931 - Jan. 8, 1944
Roger D. Lapham.....Jan. 8, 1944 - Jan. 8, 1948
Elmer E. Robinson.....Jan. 8, 1948 - Jan. 8, 1956
George Christopher.....Jan. 8, 1956 - Jan. 8, 1964
John F. Shelley.....Jan. 8, 1964 - Jan. 8, 1968
Joseph L. Alioto.....Jan. 8, 1968 - Jan. 6, 1976
George R. Moscone.....Jan. 6, 1976 - Nov. 27, 1978
Dianne Feinstein.....Nov. 27, 1978 - Jan. 8, 1988
Art Agnos.....Jan. 8, 1988 - Jan. 8, 1992
Frank M. Jordan.....Jan. 8, 1992 -

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NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETINGS

The Planning Committee of the Library Commission
San Francisco Public Library

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*Goals and Objectives 1991-1994

Thursday, January 9, 1992, 7:00 p.m.
Western Addition Branch Library
1550 Scott Street @ Geary St.

Friday, January 17, 1992, 4:30 p.m.
Lurie Room, Main Library
Civic Center

*For a copy of the draft, or for more information, please call 557-4277.

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El Dorado Schooi

Two students from El Dorado Elementary Schoolwon poster contests sponsored by the National Football League.

Billy Medina, 9 years old, designed a poster for the "Stay Fit" contest. According to Billy his winning poster was "about staying fit, stay off drugs and just say no."

Cedric Jones, 11 years old, won the NFL Super Poster contest. Cedric says the message of his poster is to stay in school.

The Northern California NFL sent the posters to New York City where they will be in a final competition with winning posters from around the country.

Both Billy and Cedric are students of Ms. Rita Sullivan who teaches 4th/5th grade at El Dorado.

Billy Medina

Cedric Jones

Sergio Medrano

Sergio Medrano, a student at El Dorado School, won $100.00 for his poem about world peace. The contest was part of the 1991 Fleet Week activities. Sergio is 10 years old and in the 4th grade.

COLEMAN'S ELECTRIFYING VIDEO

Get your copy NOW!-Call Coleman at 641-4362

Coleman Board member and professional video producer, Terry Strauss, has made a major contribution to the children's movement with her production of "I Wish I were a Princess" -a 14 minute video about San Francisco's children, narrated by Peter Coyote. The video, produced for Coleman by Strauss on a completely pro-bono basis with the help of Board Member Jeanie Kortum-Stermer and many volunteer technicians, features 7 children, telling their stories in their own words, with a vividness, fear and insight that has rarely been captured on film.

Coleman Advocates for Children made several hundred copies of the video and premiered it in September as part of the Prop j Fall campaign kickoff. The video played a critical role in communicating the need for Prop J. The New York Times, The Washington Posts, and CBS Evening News all featured the video on their coverage of Prop J. Many San Franciscans held house meetings to show the video to friends and colleagues as part of the fall campaign.

The video, can be extremely helpful in communicating the plight of our children. Coleman is very eager to loan the video to any group which wants to show it. It can also be purchased for $20. The video is also available at three Public Library branches: Mission, Western Addition and Chinatown.

Pet Bird Care Class:

Pet bird consultant, Sally Blanchard, leads a class on the humane care of parrots, cockatiels and other exotic pet birds on January 12, noon to 4 p.m. at The San Francisco SPCA. 2500 16th St. The fee is $5 for materials. Call 554-3050 to register.

CHOICES

Each month **CHOICES**, the health and fitness magazine, offers expert articles on important trends in personal health by leading authorities in the various medical fields. Every issue of **CHOICES** contains articles on a variety of topics, as well as highlighting one specific issue which is explored from a number of different perspectives.

* The December issue of **CHOICES** discusses healthy holiday feast foods.

The children were tucked all snug in their beds, while visions of plums, apples, carrots.... and even broccoli.. danced in their heads.....

As we all know, the holidays are notorious for expanding the waistline and depleting the credit line. Often while spoiling loved ones with holiday cheer, we overlook the importance of keeping our diets in a healthy balance. Children especially need guidance when it comes to choosing what to eat during the sugar-coated holiday season. For the December issue of **CHOICES**, consulting nutritionists Maureen Keane has researched and compiled a list of ten tips for parents who want to set an example and tasty Christmas feasts for the entire family.

Maureen points out that it's not enough just to tell children to limit their sugar intake, rather they should lead by example and use the holidays as a way to teach their children moderation. According to Maureen, "Parents shouldn't ban their children from eating sweets. Instead, include a healthy balance of food items and explain to your child what you are eating and why you are eating it.

Maureen's tips also include ways to relieve holiday stress and a delicious, healthy nocturnal nightcap that helps anxious toddlers sleep comfortably 'till Santa arrives.

* Maureen Keane, M.S. is a consulting nutritionist and weight-loss therapist with a B.S. in biology, a masters degree in nutrition, and is certified by the state of Washington as a nutritionist.

In the December issue of **CHOICES**, Cherie Calbom and Emily Kane, N.D.c., have compiled a few tasty recipes that are low on sugar and high on health. Don't worry, the holidays won't be bland with Emily's Basia's Cheesecake and Raisin Nut Ginger Cake, or Cherie's Almond Butter Rolls on hand. And remember, while these meals may be gobbled up in one evening, your guests will thank you that these presents aren't around after the holidays.

* Cherie Calbom received her masters of science in nutrition from Bastyr College and is the author of Nutrition as an Adjunct to Cancer Treatment.

Visitacion Valley Dental Office

Albert Kuan, D.D.S.

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Trips	Oil Painting	Cooking Class
Walking Club	Chubby Class	Spanish Class
etc...etc...	etc...etc...	etc...etc

66 Raymond Ave....467-4499...Pat Crocker, Director

Ciao Pinin

By. Joseph Porter

VALERIE

A man's life can be influenced and drastically changed by an insignificant incident or chance encounter.

A whole new career was open to me when I exhibited my Palette Fantasies.

Their success was beyond all my expectations. Yet, I was forever buffeted between scorn and flattery, with flattery overriding scorn one hundred to one.

The introduction of my Fantasies to the art world was through a San Francisco Gallery on Mason Street. They wee selling fast.

During one of the gallery's monthly get-together parties, when artiste and patrons were treated with refreshments and entertainment, the owner introduced me as his 'Artiest of the Month', Whose paintings were selling like hotcakes (his own words).

One portly patron approached me.

"I am anxious to see your Palette Fantasies. Will you point them out to me?"

"There is one tight behind you."

He turned and looked.

"That?" he snorted, "What in hell are you trying to say?"

"You have to study it and try to understand it."

He wouldn't have it. He looked around and finally pointed to a realistic life-size semi-nude.

"That's what I call a painting. That artist is a genius." And he huffed away without waiting for me to tell him I had painted both pictures.

Now for the flattery.

While doing portraits at an Art Festival in Oakland, I had a large painting on display near me. I sat relaxed, watching the crowd.

Suddenly I heard an excited voice coming from a distance.

"A Palette Fantasy!"

I stared as a strikingly beautiful young lady ran toward me with open arms.

"Are you Joseph Porter?'
"indeed I am."

She threw herself at my feet and hugged my knees and kissed my hands, all the while looking up with adoring eyes.

"Finally, at last I have found you. I adore your Palette Fantasies. They are the most beautiful friendship that was to last to the end of time, and also the birth of all my stories which, but for Valerie, would never have been written.

SENIOR JOURNEYS

GRANDMA'S WILL

They've gathered now to hear the will,
For Grandma passed away.
They're sitting there so anxiously,
They've waited for this day.
They realize it's been a while
Since anyone came by,
And with a guilty conscience,
They ask each other why.
When everyone had grown and gone,
And after Grandpa died,
Grandma had to cope with life,
And take things in her stride.
The years went by and no one came,
Or called her on the phone,
They left her in her quiet house,
To face the would alone.
She baked delicious cookies,
And filled her cookie jar.
No one came to eat them,
They said she lived too far.
She planted roses and sweet peas,
To fill her flower vases,
No one came to see them,
They went to other places.
She always had a little smile,
Her feelings she would hide,
Since no one came to see her,
No one knew she cried.
Now Grandma's looking down on them,
From Heaven's windowsill,
Knowing why they found the time
To come and hear the will.
And Grandma wonder's what they'll do,
They're sitting there so still,
For Grandma gave it all away.
Before she made her will.

Alyce Lile

FREE PAINT

Free paint from our recycling program is available in 5 gallon buckets to community groups, schools, organizations and residents.

For more information or to pick up paint, call Sanitary Fill Company.

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a warm and nurturing environment
to help the child grow
in self esteem and social responsibility

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- Please visit our center to sign up

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The Puzzler...

© by Anne Kaartunen

S.F. NEWSPAPERS PAST & PRESENT

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CALIFORNIA STAR

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R	D	A	I	W	E	C	B	A	T	U	T
E	L	E	L	E	I	A	K	M	A	Y	Y
I	A	G	A	N	L	L	R	I	L	A	A
R	R	E	O	A	T	L	A	N	K	C	D
U	E	R	N	B	U	L	L	E	T	I	N
O	H	C	N	P	S	A	W	R	L	P	U
C	E	T	U	A	N	O	G	R	A	T	S

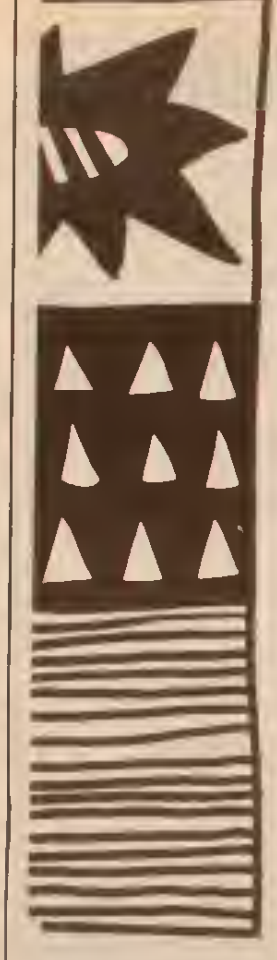
Kwanzaa '91

The Seven Principles

Presented by:
Bayview Opera House
Salad Bar

Horace Washington
Dwight N. Smith
Marie Johnson Calloway
April Watkins
Heather Watkins
Stephanie A. Johnson
Caryl Henry
Dewey Crumpler
Shanju
Candi Farlice

Curated by:
Caryl Henry and
Kate Connell



You are invited to view seven installations in honor of the Seven Principles of Kwanzaa, now through February 8, 1992. Gallery hours are Tuesday through Saturday, 12:00 Noon to 6:00 PM. Please come, celebrate and learn about our traditional African American celebration! Bayview Opera House, 4705 3rd Street, San Francisco, CA 94124, (415) 824-0386.

SUNDAY BINGO

VISITACION VALLEY CENTER GYM
66 RAYMOND AVE: 1:00 PM

This Month in S.F. History

Jan. 1: In 1934, Alcatraz Island, formerly a military post, became a Federal Prison.

Jan. 2: In 1921, De Young Museum, now a part of the Academy of Sciences, opened in Golden Gate Park.

Jan. 5: In 1933, construction commenced on the Golden Gate Bridge when a crew began excavating for the Marin County anchorage.

Jan 8: In 1880, Joshua Norton, a onetime successful City businessman, died. When ill-fated grain speculations left him penniless, Norton declared himself Emperor of the United States and Protector of Mexico, issued his own currency which was sympathetically accepted by local shopkeepers, and went on to become one of San Francisco's most colorful oddball characters.

Jan. 9: In 1847, San Francisco, then known as Yerba Buena, issued its first newspaper, the California Star, a four-page weekly published by Samuel Brannan. In 1849, San Francisco established its first bank, the Exchange and Deposit Office located on Kearny St. In 1857, a 7:45 a.m. earthquake and aftershocks shook San Francisco, with shocks reportedly felt as far away as San Diego.

Jan. 16: In 1865, brothers Charles and Michael H. DeYoung published the first issue of the Daily Dramatic Chronicle, a free theatre newspaper which soon grew into today's San Francisco Chronicle.

Jan. 22: In 1850, the Alta California, formed by the merging of the Californian and California Star, the first two newspapers published in California, became the state's first daily newspaper when it switched from its previous tri-weekly schedule. In 1939, the Aquatic Park, adjacent to Fort Mason in the northern part of the City, was officially dedicated.

Jan. 27: In 1894, the Midwinter Fair, a City event which publicized the Pacific Coast's mild off-season climatic conditions, opened in Golden Gate Park. In 1955, a severe landslide permanently closed a stretch of El Camino del Mar, a scenic drive near Land's End.

Jan. 30: In 1847, the City's name was officially changed from Yerba Buena to San Francisco.

National Reverberations - Children's Movement Ignites In S.F.

Prop J is considered by advocates throughout the country as a landmark event in the children's movement. Prop J was the only November '91 campaign in California which received national attention: It was the election day feature of ABC World News with Peter Jennings; it was highlighted in The Washington Post as one of the foremost elections to watch in the country. Every national TV news network, The New York Times, National Public Radio, Associated Press and The Science Monitor carried a story on the campaign, and Ellen Goodman covered Prop J in her syndicated column.

The national attention was based on a growing recognition of the importance of children's issues. Given the crisis children face, there is significant interest in whether children can win a political campaign, since other ways to meet their needs have failed.

Coleman has been receiving non-stop requests from around the country for information. Ecstatic child advocates are calling, seriously considering mounting campaigns in their own communities. Inquiries have come from such diverse states as Texas, Michigan, Pennsylvania, Oregon and Utah. Groups in Los Angeles, New York, and Washington, D.C., among others are already considering initiating similar campaigns.

What Will Prop J Do?

The Comptroller must develop a baseline children's budget documenting what the city currently spends on children's services. The city will now be prevented from reducing expenditures for children below the baseline budget, and expenditures for children are mandated to increase each year at the same rate as the General Fund.

The City must set aside 1.25% of the property tax for fiscal year 1992-93 and 2.5% for the succeeding nine years for the Children's Fund. The first year this will be approximately $5.7 Million

The Children's Fund, in its first four years of operation, is required to allocate the money according to the following formula: 25% childcare, 25% job readiness and youth employment services; 25% health and social services. The remaining 25% can be spent on any of the above categories, or on libraries, recreation, educational programs or delinquency prevention.

MAYORS OF SAN FRANCISCO

CHARLES BRENHAM

San Francisco's second chief executive, Charles J. Brenham, had the sole distinction of again being elected to a separate term as the City's fourth mayor.

A native of Frankfort, Kentucky, born November 6, 1817, he established himself at an early age as a Mississippi River skipper.

Brenham arrived in the Bay Area during the summer of 1849 to pursue a profitable operation of a steamship line between San Francisco and Sacramento.

Originally nominated as a candidate for San Francisco's first mayor in 1850, the popular Brenham declined, but was nevertheless coerced by his supporters to run for election the following year.

Inaugurated May 5, 1851, the office he inherited from outgoing mayor John Geary oversaw a San Francisco overwhelmingly wrought with crime and corruption, patrolled by a Committee of Vigilance in which he himself participated. The vigilantes greatly assisted in maintaining law and order on the streets.

Brenham's term as mayor came to an abrupt end at the end of 1851 when a clause conflict in the City's revised charter eventually deemed legal the election of Stephen R. Harris, a local physician, as San Francisco's third mayor.

Brenham worked as a banker for nearly a year before the City's voters returned him to the mayor's office on November 10, 1852, where he served an immensely growing San FRancisco until October 3, 1853.

He returned to the shipping business serving as an agent until his death in San Francisco at the age of 58 on May 10, 1876.

Brenham Place, a small street bordering the western end of Portsmouth Square, was named in his honor.

CLASSIFIED

Two lines - 26 characters $3.00. Additional lines @ 75 cents each. Deadline is the 20th of each month prior to publication date. Mail ad copy with check to Visitacion Valley Grapevine, 50 Raymond Ave., San Francisco, CA 94134.

Event Announcements For January 1992

Pet Loss Support group:

On Tuesday January 7, Dr. Betty Carmack will moderate a free Pet Loss Support Group for grieving pet owners. The meeting will be held from 7:30 to 9:00 p.m. at The San Francisco SPCA, 2500-16th St. Call 554-3000 to confirm.

Cat Behavior Class:

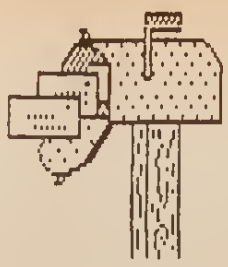
On January 18 cat behavior consultant, Kate Gamble, conducts this monthly seminar on kitty behavior. She explains how to solve common cat behavior problems and, as time permits, will answer your specific cat questions. The class is from 10 a.m. to noon at The San Francisco SPCA, 2500 16th ST. with a fee of $5. Call 554-3073 to register.

Petrent Seminar:

During this tbree-bour worksbop, experts from the rental industry will give tips on how to find a rental property that allows pets, how to negotiate with rental agents and property owners, and how best present yourself and your pet to a potential landlord. The basics of responsible pet ownersbip will also be reviewed, and anyone interested in becoming a better pet owner is welcome to attend. The seminar is January 29 from 6 to 9 p.m. at The SF/SPCA, 2500 16th ST and a $15 donation is requested. For more information or to register, call 554-3050.

January, 1992

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 HAPPY NEW YEAR * EMANCIPATION PROCLAMATION 1863	2 11:30 VVCC SENIOR COUNCIL * ROSES-POTRO POLICE/COMM 900MINNSOTA 7:00 PM	3 7:00PM VV ASIAN RES ASSN 66 RAYMOND * MEL GIBSON 1951 HAPPY B-DAY!	4 SIR ISAAC NEWTON BORN 1642
5 1864 GEORGE WASHINGTON CARVER * 1:00 VVCC BINGO	6 CARL SANDBURG 1878	7 1955-MARIAN ANDERSON 1ST BLACK TO SING AT METROPOLITAN OPERA	8 BIRTHDAYS: ELVIS PRESLEY 1935 DAVID BOVIE 1947	9 1929 SEEING EYE DOGS INCORPORATD	10 LEAGUE OF NATIONS CONVENED IN GENEVA 1920	11 1ST ELECTRONIC VOTING MACHINES USED IN WISCONSIN 1917
12 1:00 VVCC BINGO * JACK LONDON BORN 1876	13	14 ELDORADO NEIGHBORS 7:00 PM * VVCC PARENT COUNCIL 6:00 PM	15 MARTIN LUTHUR KING BORN 1929 * ALPHA KAPPA ALPHA 1908 HOWARD UNIV	16 DALLAS WINS SUPERBOWL VI 1/16/72	17	18 1974 EGYPT & ISREAL SIGN DISENGAGENT TREATY
19 1:00 VVCC BINGO	20 MARTIN LUTHUR KING BIRTHDAY OBSERVED	21 HAPPY BIRTHDAY WOLFMAN JACK 1939	22	23	24 49ERS WIN SUPERBOWL XV - 1982 THANKS, RAY! * MARIA TALLCHIEF 1925	25 1966 CONSTANCE BAKER MOTLEY - 1ST BLACK WOMAN FEDERAL JUDGE-APPTD
26 1:00 VVCC BINGO (DRAWING) * MICHIGAN 26TH STATE 1837	27 HARLEM GLOBETROTTR BIRTHDAY 1927	28 ELDORADO NEIGHBORS 7:00 PM	29 1926- VIOLETTE NEATLY - 1ST BLACK WOMAN ATTY TO PRACTICE BEFORE U S SUPREME CT.	30	31 VISVALLEY IMPROVEMENT ASSN 3.00 PM AT 66 RAYMOND	



SEND CALENDAR ITEMS TO
GRAPEVINE, 50 RAYMOND AVE, SF 94134
OR CALL 467-6400
DEADLINE - 20TH OF MONTH FOR THE
FOLLOWING MONTH'S ISSUE

EXECUTIVES SEE "PARENT TRACKING" AS WAVE OF FUTURE

Survey Shows High Sensitivity to Balance of Work and Family

MENLO PARK, CA A recent survey of executives at major U.S. companies reveals that they feel employees want a greater balance between family and career a trend which has been widely referred to as "parent tracking" and believe organizations should accomodate these desires.

The survey was developed by Robert Half International, the world's largest personnel firm in the accounting, finance and information systems fields. It was conducted by an independent research firm, which polled 200 executives from the nation's 1,000 largest companies.

Among the survey highlights:

A full 92 percent of executives feel employees in general are more concerned with balancing family duties and jobs today than they were five years ago.

Nearly half (49 percent) said the number of ambitious executives willing to work long hours on a fast track career has decreased over the same time period, with the overwhelming reason (59 percent) being a desire for more time with family.

More than two-thirds (68 percent) said companies should offer a "parent track" or slower career path, to allow a working parent more family time.

Two-thirds (66 percent) think male executives will be more likely to take advantage of paternity leave options five years from now. (A 1990 Robert Half survey showed that while 31 percent of companies offered paternity leave, only 1 percent of eligible employees took advantage of it.)

Max Messmer, chairman of Robert Half International, said the survey shows that corporate policy-makers are beginning to acknowledge the changing priorities of today's workforce.

"A survey we conducted in June 1989, among a nationwide sample of 1000 men and women, showed that 78 percent would choose a slower career 'parent track' if given the opportunity," said Messmer. "Since then, the concept has received wide visibility and highligbted the fact that men want to sboulder greater responsibility in rearing their families."

"Those companies that lead the way in instituting progressive new policies to accomodate 'parent tracking' will gain an advantage in attracting and keeping the bighest quality employees."

Messmer cautioned that new corporate policies will only be effective if they are based on a sincere belief that employees who select a slower career advancement can be as valuable a resource as those who choose a faster track.

"The corporate culture must be based on recognition of a person's overall contributions to the organization -- not just on bow many hours be or she is willing to work," Messmer said.

VVCC Senior Center Program

by Pat Crocker, Senior Program Director

Many of you know me because of my last-minute shopping on Leland Avenue. Some of you know me from Panda's at lunch time. Then of course some of you know me as the "Reno Lady", planning trips to Reno. However it may be, what I'm doing in the neighborhood, is my job. I am the Director of the Senior Program at Visitacion Valley Community Center. It's my job to "enhance the lives of elders" of the Visitacion Valley community.

Our Senior Center is funded by the San Francisco Commission on the Aging. Thanks to the COA's support, we offer a myriad of events and activities...exercise, movies, blood pressure screenings, oil painting, arts & crafts, sewing, free and discount tickets to shows and fairs, day outings, Reno trips, parties, Bingo and lots more.

What you may not know is that I have a "referral library" right in my office. We're a branch of "Senior Information & Referral." If I'm not able to recommend or advise what you need, at least I am able to refer you to someone who can. Do you need a ride to your doctor's office? Are your neighbors a problem? Need a good plumber? Having trouble with filling out forms? Depressed? Need a phone number?..a zip code?..want assistance with a will or other legal matter?

Call me anytime and leave a message at 467-4499. I'll return your call as soon as time allows, and we'll set up an appointment. **This service is free.**

REGULAR MEETINGS OF CITY COMMISSIONS & BOARDS

Airports Commission	1st & 3rd Tuesday	3:00PM
Arts Commission	1st Monday	3:00PM
Board of Education	2nd & 4th Tuesday	7:00PM
Board of Supervisors	each Monday	2:00PM
Commission on Aging	1st Wednesday	9:30AM
Comm - Status of Women	4th Thursday	4:00PM
Health Commission	1st & 3rd Tuesday	3:00PM
Housing Authority Comm	2nd & 4th Thursday	4:00PM
Human Rights Comm	1st & 3rd Thursday	4:30PM
Library Commission	1st Tuesday	4:30PM
Planning Commission	each Thursday	1:30PM
Police Commission	each Wednesday	5:30PM
Port Commission	1st Tues & 3rd Wed	4:30PM
Public Utilities Comm	2nd & 4th Tuesday	2:00PM
Recreation & Parks	3rd Thursday	2:00PM
Social Services Comm	4th Thursday	9:30AM

GRAPEVINE HOLIDAY CHEER CONTEST WINNERS

The first Annual Grapevine Holiday Cheer Contest led us into the Holiday spirit and produced three winners of $25 prizes and trophy ornaments for their trees.

Mr. & Mrs. Rod Java, of Arleta Avenue, decorated their lovely traditional Victorian house with equally lovely traditional garlands and wreaths for an old fashioned, romantic look. The effect was festive and pretty.

Linda Vernestra Johnson and her family's house on Sawyer Street shone with the light of giant candles and a lighted outdoor Santa, which framed a very prettily decorated tree in the front window. The effect was one of warmth, which matched the warmth with which the GV photographer was greeted.

Mila's Video won raves for their elaborately decorated store windows featuring both Christmas and New Year. Santa and Mrs. Claus decorated the Christmas tree in one window, while "comedy" and "tragedy" looked on from a field of silver stars in the other window. This display was the most eyecatching on Leland Avenue this season.

Thanks to all the winners and all who decorated their windows this Holiday season; and thanks to Tuntex Corporation and to Schlage Lock Company for the donated prizes. Thanks also to Rod Java and to Mila's Video on behalf of the VVCC Senior Center for the donation of their prize money to the senior citizens.

Happy New Year to all, and please...start now to design your window for next year's contest. I have a feeling the competition will be merry and bright!

Mila's Video won raves for their elaborately decorated store windows

Mr. & Mrs. Rod Java

Linda Vernestra Johnson

Cathy Kline

Senior Marketing Consultant

Born and raised in Visitacion Valley

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